

long overdue. Cesar's dream is moving towards reality. Whether it be by increasing education, work and training opportunities; continuing the fight to gain a liveable wage, benefits, and working conditions; or guaranteeing their access to full citizenship and the right to have their grievance addressed by whether legal means available.

As we move forward as a community towards ensuring equal opportunity, equal protections and equal membership for all peoples in our society, let us remember the contributions of one of the greatest teachers on the means and importance of this pursuit—Cesar Chavez.

TRIBUTE TO ALPHONSE AUCLAIR

HON. JACK REED

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 1995

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Alphonse Auclair, a distinguished individual from Rhode Island who through his dedication and hard work, has selflessly served the people of Rhode Island in many capacities.

Mr. Auclair is a lifelong resident of Rhode Island. He was born in Woonsocket, RI and was educated in area schools. On his 18th birthday, November 9, 1942, Alphonse enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. After serving his country with valor and distinction in the Pacific, including the battle for Iwo Jima, Alphonse Auclair returned to Rhode Island.

Mr. Auclair served as a police officer in the city of Woonsocket from 1952 through 1977, when he was elected to represent his community in the Rhode Island State Senate. In this capacity, Mr. Auclair was a champion of veterans issues in Rhode Island. In 1962 he helped to found the St. Joseph's Veterans Association, which has played a key role in veterans affairs in Woonsocket ever since. In addition to working to improve the lives of Woonsocket's veterans, Mr. Auclair was instrumental in the building of a monument dedicated to the many Rhode Islander's that made the supreme sacrifice in the Vietnam war.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of Rhode Island, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a truly exceptional individual, Alphonse Auclair.

TURKEY MUST CEASE ITS RELENTLESS ATTACKS AGAINST THE KURDISH PEOPLE

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 1995

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my extreme dismay and strong concerns about the recent actions of the Turkish Government.

The government in Turkey has once again decided that it is easier to address dissension around its borders with military force than to sit down to talk with those whose only wish is to seek freedom from overwhelming oppression.

You will hear from the Turkish Government that this recent excursion into Kurdish-held areas in Iraq is only aimed at stopping Kurdish

rebel groups from making raids into Turkey. We must not be fooled by what they say.

It is accepted policy in that country to deny official acknowledgement of a group that comprises close to 20 percent of its total population. Because they have no special protection under Turkish law, Kurdish civilians have been victim to a policy of discriminate harassment, persecution, even killing and wounding at the hands of the Turkish establishment.

The Turkish Government has been condemned time and time again by the United Nations, Helsinki Watch, and Amnesty International for denying Kurds the basic civil liberties. These include the right to freedom of self-determination and the right to freely express the richness of their cultural heritage.

Mr. Speaker, this current situation is no different. Thousands of Turkish-born Kurds are now living in northern Iraq, after fleeing Turkey last year because of harassment from Turkish officials. Their lives have been shattered because of the incessant attacks on their heritage, culture, and indeed, their very existence.

These civilians have been caught in the crossfire for too long. These civilians only seek the freedom to choose their own destinies. At the very least, this Government's response should be to say in no uncertain terms that they be allowed to pursue this very basic right.

However, Mr. Speaker, we may be also partly to blame for the ongoing crisis in the mountains of Iraq.

Not only does the Turkish Government receive vast amounts of United States financial aid, we and our allies also supply their government with large amounts of military hardware. These weapons are in turn being used to wipe out whole villages, to kill innocent women and children. We should follow the lead of the German Government and look to end our weapons trade with Turkey.

I believe, Mr. Speaker, all United States aid to Turkey should be reviewed in light of their history with other ethnic groups in Cyprus and Armenia. And just as important, that government's current activities in the mountains of Iraq should further make us question our priorities in that region.

Mr. Speaker, Turkey does have the right to protect its borders and to protect its citizens from terrorism. However, this very right cannot be used to justify continued harassment and persecution of innocent civilian populations.

We have supported the right of Iraqi-born Kurds to pursue independence from the regime in Baghdad. Our troops are in the mountains of northern Iraq at this moment, protecting Kurds from the Iraqi military. However, Mr. Speaker, we should look to protect the rights of all Kurds, regardless of where they were born.

The United States has warned the Turkish Government that we are watching. I will say also that the whole world should watch this situation very closely. This will not only hold that government accountable but will also force this country to reevaluate its foreign priorities and practices.

A TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE NATHANIEL R. JONES

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 1995

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to stand here today to honor a remarkable man from the 17th Congressional District of Ohio. Please join me today in honoring the Honorable Judge Nathaniel R. Jones on his retirement from the U.S. Court of Appeals.

Judge Jones has served on the bench of the Sixth Circuit, U.S. Court of Appeals since his appointment during the Carter administration in 1979. This accounts for 15 years of service to his country. In addition, Judge Jones has devoted much of his time outside the office to community events and civil rights activities. Judge Jones has the further distinction of having served the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People as Chief Legal Counsel.

Mr. Speaker, it is rare that I have the opportunity to honor someone like Judge Nathaniel R. Jones who has given so much not only to his own community but also to the entire country. My sincere appreciation goes out to Judge Jones for the job he has done. May he be blessed with health, happiness and continued success in the years to come.

STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE ROMERO-BARCELÓ

HON. CARLOS A. ROMERO-BARCELÓ

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 1995

Mr. ROMERO-BARCELÓ. Mr. Speaker, reducing costly and unnecessary regulatory burdens has become a leading theme in the 104th Congress. Today, I am introducing legislation that promotes this goal. The Environmental Protection Agency has demanded that Puerto Rico institute costly secondary treatment at one of the island's wastewater treatment facilities despite any showing that it will improve the environment and without considering whether less costly alternatives would be equally or even more effective. This legislation, first, provides for an independent study of the relative costs, benefits, and feasibility of alternatives to secondary treatment for wastewater discharged through a deep ocean outfall from the Mayaguez wastewater treatment plant, and second, permits Puerto Rico to apply for, and EPA to consider, a waiver of secondary treatment requirements under the Clean Water Act if such a waiver is appropriate.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is a reasonable, cost-effective solution to what has become an interminable, intractable series of negotiations and court battles between Puerto Rico and the EPA over abstruse points of administrative law—at considerable expense to the American taxpayers. Section 301(h) of the Clean Water Act provides that EPA may waive secondary treatment standards for publicly owned treatment works [POTW's] that meet certain effluent standards. But the EPA contends it is time-barred from considering a waiver application for the Mayaguez POTW.